

"At nine to 10 dollars, it was very high for them, but it was something they could deal with," he said. At \$14, "that was the point companies would consider retrofitting their facilities to switch," McCoy said.

Carolina Ceramics switched to propane in the weeks after Katrina when natural gas supplies were curtailed. The company will continue to burn propane for a while because its price is now lower than natural gas.

But long-term cost savings depend on efficiency. Without the energy-saving improvements, Carolina Ceramics would be paying \$130,000 per month more for natural gas.

Borden, who turned 40 this year, started in the brick business working for his father, Frank Borden, 77, who ran a Borden Brick in Durham, N.C. The business had been started by Michael Borden's great-grandfather in 1911, but the family sold it in 1989 to Cherokee-Sanford Brick of Raleigh.

Frank Borden retired, but Michael Borden went to work for Cherokee-Sanford. When the company bought Carolina Ceramics in 1992, Borden moved to Columbia to manage it. A few years later, the company decided to sell it, and Borden's family bought it.

Carolina Ceramics was founded in 1939. It has sold about 80 percent of its bricks to builders of offices, schools and stores, but with its new capacity it is now going to supply more bricks to home builders, Borden said.

As the Gulf Coast recovers from hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Borden expects brick demand will rise by early next year as contractors begin rebuilding homes, offices, schools and stores. "We would expect to see a lot of opportunities in that area when they get ready."

RECOGNIZING SISTER PAULA DELGROSSO

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sister Paula DelGrosso of the Carmelite Community of the Word, Altoona, Pennsylvania, as the recipient of the 2005 John Riley Human Relations Award for community service. This award is presented each year to an individual who has performed outstanding and meritorious service to the community of Altoona through personal efforts by enhancing the dignity and worth of its citizens. This award is presented by the Blair County Advisory Council to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and is now in its sixteenth year of giving this award. The Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission has served the citizens of Pennsylvania faithfully since 1955 fighting the practice or policy of discrimination against individuals or groups by reason of their race, color, familial status, creed, ancestry, age, sex, national origin or disability.

Sister DelGrosso is receiving this award in recognition for her lifelong commitment to the community of Altoona, but in particular for her special efforts over the past fourteen years as Director of the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen and Food for Families Food Bank in Altoona. Under Sister DelGrosso's guidance, the dining hall at St. Vincent DePaul's has been able to provide over 35,000 meals every year to needy people in the community. Thanks in large part to her steadfast leadership, the kitchen at St. Vincent DePaul's enjoys support

from various segments of the community ranging from the religious to the financial and from the public to the private sector. These are people within the community of Altoona who share different philosophies, beliefs and opinions, yet Sister DelGrosso has been able to bring them together in support of a worthy cause.

Sister Paula has led a life filled with compassion and dignity. Born in the town of Altoona, the daughter of Thomas and Mary DelGrosso, Sister Paula graduated from Altoona Area High School and Mt. Aloysius, before going on to graduate with a B.S. in Education from St. Francis University, and a Masters Degree and Supervision Certificate in Guidance and Counseling from Duquesne University. Her passion for education has imbued her life as she has served in the field of education for thirty-four years, with sixteen being spent as an elementary and secondary school teacher and eighteen years as Assistant Superintendent of Schools for the Altoona/Johnstown Diocese.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Sister Paula DelGrosso for her lifelong commitment to the community of Altoona and I am proud to call Sister Paula a constituent.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EMMETT C. BURNS, JR.

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Emmett C. Burns, Jr., who is an outstanding delegate to the Maryland House of Delegates and who has been awarded this year's Thurgood Marshall Legacy Award by the Baltimore City Branch of the NAACP.

It is most fitting that Emmett Burns is the recipient of an award named for our Nation's first African-American U.S. Supreme Court Justice. Thurgood Marshall, who was born in Baltimore, was one of the most important figures in our Nation's struggle for civil rights. As chief attorney for the NAACP, he successfully argued the Brown v. Board of Education case before the Supreme Court, ending legalized segregation of our Nation's schools.

Since 1995, Emmett Burns has been a leader in the Maryland House of Delegates for the rights of all Marylanders. Most recently, he was instrumental in the enactment of a law to rename Maryland's largest airport the Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport.

As former head and lifelong member of the Baltimore NAACP, he has been a role model for the African-American community, providing a strong voice for social justice and equality. I have known Emmett Burns for many years and I consider him a friend whose advice I seek and value.

I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Del. Emmett C. Burns on being this year's recipient of the Baltimore City NAACP Thurgood Marshall Legacy Award.

IN RECOGNITION OF A NEW FEDERAL COURTHOUSE IN FRESNO, CA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the completion of a spectacular new United States Courthouse in Fresno, California, that will serve the needs of the communities of the great Central San Joaquin Valley.

I am joined in this recognition by my colleagues, who also represent the City of Fresno and the communities served by this new facility, Representatives DENNIS CARDOZA, DEVIN NUNES and GEORGE RADANOVICH.

The new courthouse features 14 courtrooms and judicial chambers for the U.S. District Court, the U.S. Magistrate, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. It also includes facilities such as a library, conference rooms, jury assembly area, public cafeteria and offices for other federal agencies and elected officials.

This unique, nine-story building integrates the textures, colors and materials of the surrounding natural landscape of Fresno and the nearby Sierra Nevada mountain range.

The building began construction in April 2002 and was completed at a cost of \$116 million. It will accommodate 232 employees, who will serve hundreds of private citizens on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, it is with the greatest pleasure that I join my colleagues in celebrating this momentous occasion for the communities of the Central San Joaquin Valley.

RECOGNIZING THE FINALISTS OF THE DISCOVERY CHANNEL'S YOUNG SCIENTIST CHALLENGE

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the House Committee on Science, I am an avid supporter of programs that encourage the youth of America to push the limits of innovation. One such program is the Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge.

In 1999, Discovery Communications, Inc., designed the Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge to help address America's chronic underachievement in K-12 science and math. The annual national contest responds to evidence that our students' academic performance and interest in science declines dramatically as they become older, particularly during the middle school years.

The Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge attempts to reverse that decline by identifying and honoring America's top middle school students with a demonstrated ability in leadership, teamwork, and scientific problem solving. More than 9,500 middle school students have accepted the challenge and have competed for the title of "America's Top Young Scientist of the Year." Since 1999, scholarship awards for the students have totaled more than \$500,000, and challenge winners have participated in science-related trips to far-off places, including the Roslin Institute